

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, and 5 are now pending in this application for which applicant seeks reconsideration.

Claims 2 and 3 have been canceled, and claim 1 has been amended to substantially parallel a claim that has been allowed in the priority application. New claim 5, which substantially parallel another claim that has been allowed in the priority application, has been added. Support for claims 1 and 2 is found at least on pages 10-15, Figs. 1, 2, and 4. The Summary of the Invention also has been amended to parallel changes made to the claims. No new matter has been introduced.

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as anticipated by Kaji (USP 7,027,600). Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Kaji. Claim 3 was rejected under § 103(a) as unpatentable over Kaji in view of Chen (USP 7,116,788). Applicant submits that the pending claims clearly define over these references because none of the applied references disclose or teach 1) an array speaker system in which a plurality of speaker units are arranged in an array, and 2) the claimed interpolation processing means/control means as set forth in independent claims 1 and 2.

Applicant submits that claims 1, 4, and 5 patentably distinguish over the applied references and are in condition for allowance. Should the examiner have any issues concerning this reply or any other outstanding issues remaining in this application, applicant urges the examiner to contact the undersigned to expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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DATE

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